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February 16, 2001

BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Application of **Claudio DE GIROLAMO** and **Vincenzo SESTITO**

TRAFFIC PROTECTION MECHANISM FOR A FIBER OPTIC NETWORK HAVING A LINEAR TOPOLOGY
Our Ref. Q63003

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto is the application identified above including 10 sheets of the specification, including the claims and abstract, and 2 sheets of drawings. The executed Declaration and Power of Attorney and Assignment will be submitted at a later date. Also enclosed is the Information Disclosure Statement.

Please see attached preliminary amendment before calculating Government filing fee.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	13	- 20	= 0	x	$18.00	=	$.00
Independent claims	4	- 3	= 1	x	$80.00	=	$80.00
Base Fee							$710.00
TOTAL FEE							**$790.00**

A check for the statutory filing fee of $790.00 is attached. You are also directed and authorized to charge or credit any difference or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 and any petitions for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

Priority is claimed from February 18, 2000 based on Italian Application No. MI2000A000275. The priority document is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,
SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC
Attorneys for Applicant

By: David J. Cushing
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